

NOTES ON TWO KANGAROOS FROM THE "NORTHERN TERRITORY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA," WITH DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES.

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THROUGH the exertions of Mr. Bernard H. Woodward, of the Perth Museum, a number of most interesting forms of the larger species of *Macropus* have been discovered or rediscovered, such as *M. antilopinus* and several forms allied to *M. robustus*. All these were found in Western and North-Western Australia. Owing to the interest aroused by these discoveries, a number of living specimens of these have been imported, and among them I have found a new form, and what I believe to be the long-sought Owen's Kangaroo, *Macropus magnus* Owen. In Mr. Thomas's Catalogue of the Marsupialia and Monotremata of the British Museum *M. magnus*, known only from the type skull, is stated to be closest to *M. rufus*, though the skull has remarkable differences. The kangaroo I am about to describe is certainly near to *M. rufus*, and not a Wallaroo (*M. robustus* subsp.). I will now give a description of this very fine species.

Macropus magnus Owen.

Male adult (living) : Size of *M. rufus*. Hair short and very thick and woolly, as in *M. rufus*, only more exaggerated. Whole of body deep mahogany chestnut. Ears and face blackish, a band on shoulders and at the bend of thighs, forelegs, hindlegs and anterior two-thirds of tail black. Size of *M. robustus*.

Habitat : Northern Territory of South Australia.

Until we can examine the skull it is impossible to be certain that this is the true *Macropus magnus*, but the probability is that it is really this long-lost species, because it is the only one of the recently discovered forms which is really close to *M. rufus*.

I describe the new form as follows :

Macropus argentatus spec. nov.

Male adult : Basal half of ears, occiput, and hindneck, shoulders, and anterior half of body bright dark rufous, washed with purple. Anterior half of ears, face, forearms, lower part of hindlegs, and anterior half of tail blackish. Posterior half of body mixed with black hairs, giving the animal a dark roan appearance.

Female adult : Silvery grey all over, mixed with ashy grey, giving the animal the appearance of a large Chinchilla ; lower flanks almost white ; anterior two-thirds of tail yellowish grey. The young animal is pale grey with a slight shade of red in places. Hair in both sexes very long, thick, and silky.

Habitat : Northern Territory of South Australia. (Type living at Tring.)

This is decidedly a Wallaroo, and allied to *M. robustus* ; but again we cannot decide until we examine the skulls as to its correct status, and so I prefer to name it as a species. The name is given to indicate the colour of the female,

The known races of the Wallaroo are as follows :

Macropus robustus robustus.

Queensland.

M. robustus cervinus Thomas.

Murchison District, South-Western Australia.

M. robustus erubescens Sclat.

Extreme South and South-East Australia.

M. robustus alligatoris Thomas.

South Alligator River.

M. robustus woodwardi Thomas.

South-west part of Kimberley, North-West Australia.

M. robustus isabellinus Gray.

Barrow Island, off West Australia.
